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EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

Interesting announcements regarding instruction in meteorology at Harvard University will be found in the prospectus of the division of geology, issued in pamphlet form June 20, 1907, as number 24 of Volume IV of the Official Register of Harvard University.

Geology B is the elementary course in meteorology, and is required for admission to all the courses in climatology. It counts as a half course, is given during the second half year, and includes three lectures and four hours of laboratory work each week. It is open to freshmen.

Geology 1 deals with the climatology of North America. It is a half course, given during the first half year, and includes three lectures each week and additional hours for laboratory work. It is designed to give a general view of the climates of North America especially suited to the use of students of physiography, forestry, and medicine.

Geology 2 is a half course on the geography of South America, given during the first half year. Assistant Professor Ward is the instructor, and special attention is paid to climatology.

Geology 3 (omitted in 1907–8) treats of the climatology of the Eastern Hemisphere.

Geology 19 is a half course in general climatology, given during the first half year. It includes three lectures each week and additional hours for laboratory work. It is recommended to students who intend to study medicine. The textbook is the English translation of Volume I of Hann's Handbuch der Klimatologie.

Geology 20e is a research course in climatology, primarily for graduates. It may be taken as a whole course or as a half course, but is open only to those who have past in all or most of the courses previously mentioned or who have had equivalent preparation.

In regard to the geographical and meteorological laboratory the pamphlet announces:

A large corner room on the third floor (of the geological section of the university museum building) is devoted to the elementary classes in physiography and meteorology, and is provided with tables for about forty men. Adjoining this room are two smaller rooms used for lectures before advanced classes.

As an adjunct to the meteorological laboratory, there is a students' meteorological observatory. This observatory, equipped for the practical instruction of students, is established on the roof of the geological section of the museum, with an instrument room immediately below.

Mr. H. L. F. Morse, head of the department of science in the Troy, N. Y., High School, informs us that at that school considerable attention is given to the study of meteorology. In the physics classes, numbering in all about fifty pupils, as much time as possible is spent on meteorology, under the heads of barometry, thermometry, and heat propagation. Some of the pupils get interested and pursue meteorology by themselves, following along from the weather map that comes to the school each afternoon.

In the physical geography class, numbering from forty to fifty pupils, each pupil makes, on transparent paper, a diagram from some dozen or more "lows" on the same piece of paper, each set of arrows being superposed on all the others. Also a similar diagram is prepared from a dozen "highs." From several sets of consecutive maps storm paths are traced across the continent. Each pupil makes a complete weather map from the telegraphed data. During a month in the fall and again in the spring the pupils take daily turns in reading the barometer and thermometers (dry and wet bulbs, maximum and minimum), and noting the wind direction and weather, and during these periods the weather of each day is discust in class for fifteen minutes, the pupils finding the cause from the map of the day itself or that of the preceding day.

Most of the boys and some of the girls in this class become very good forecasters, and scarcely need to look at the predictions on the maps received from Albany.

DISSEMINATION OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

The Secretary of Agriculture has been informed of the following resolution recently adopted in London:

That the members of the International Conference on Hybridization and Plant Breeding, gathered from all parts of the world, and assembled in the hall of the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain, desire to express to the President of the United States of America, and to the Minister of the Department of Agriculture at Washington their hearty appreciation of and thanks for the invaluable assistance which has been given to farmers, horticulturists, planters, and scientific men throughout the whole world by the liberal distribution of American research publications.

As our Government has sometimes been criticized for its efforts to disseminate useful knowledge, it is a pleasure to receive such hearty appreciation and recognition of its work. If the knowledge acquired by research at the expense of the people can be widely disseminated and made available in many practical ways, then civilization is advanced, the permanent security of the Government is assured, and an additional argument is offered for the wisdom of our forefathers in establishing a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

METEOROLOGICAL TERMS USED IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Under date of December 23, 1906, Capt. John P. Finley, Governor of the District of Zamboanga, submits a list of native names of certain meteorological terms. This list is given in English, Maguindanao Moro, Sulu Moro, Malay, and Spanish. The Maguindanao Moro is given in both English and Arabic characters.

We regret that, not having a font of Arabic characters, we can print the Maguindanao Moro only in English characters.

As a general rule the number of specific terms applicable to specific weather conditions indicates the extent of the national habit of a close consideration of the atmosphere in its relation to the every-day occupations of the people. Among some nations it is the rain, among others the wind, and among others still the sunshine that most frequently attracts attention. It is specially interesting to find words for ice and snow coined by people who certainly very rarely, if ever, become acquainted with these in a natural way in such a tropical climate as that of the Philippines.